



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent) Before the Examiner
application of:) Julian W. Woo
Hallett H. Mathews)
Serial No. 09/519,295) Group Art Unit 3731
Filed March 6, 2000) Atty. Docket No. 4002-2270
METHOD FOR SUBCUTANEOUS) July 30, 2004
SUPRAFASCIAL PEDICULAR)
INTERNAL FIXATION)

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

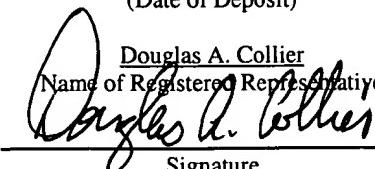
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance dated April 30, please enter the following remarks. Please provide any extensions of time and charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

July 30, 2004
(Date of Deposit)

Douglas A. Collier
Name of Registered Representative

Signature

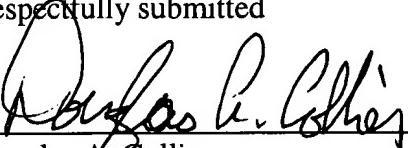
July 30, 2004
Date of Signature

REMARKS

Applicants hereby acknowledge that pending claims 23-46 of the above-referenced application have now been allowed. Applicants also acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.109, Applicant hereby makes of record the following comments to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

The Examiner's comments do not focus upon any particular elements or limitations of the claims over any other elements or claim limitations. Applicants interpret the Examiner's comments to mean that the invention resides in the combination of elements as variously recited in each of the claims, and not in the presence of any one or a few particular elements or limitations in any one of the claims. Entry of these Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

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